

CLAIMS

1. An actuation device for a cooking appliance (10, 11) comprising at least two cooking points (12, 13, 14, 15), which has at least one actuation element (16, 17) with an associated sensor unit (18) which senses the actuation modes of the actuation element (16, 17) for selection of the cooking points (12, 13, 14, 15), for adjustment of a heating step and activation of the respectively selected cooking point (12, 13, 14, 15) and for deactivation of the selected and activated cooking point (12, 13, 14, 15), characterised in that the sensor unit (18) can sense at least one further actuation mode of the actuation element (16, 17) in addition to the actuation modes for selecting the cooking points (12, 13, 14, 15), for adjusting a heating step and activating the respectively selected cooking point (12, 13, 14, 15) and for deactivating the selected and activated cooking point (12, 13, 14, 15).
2. The actuation device according to claim 1, characterised in that the sensor unit (18) can sense an actuation of the actuation element (16, 17) starting from an initial position (24) in at least one direction of actuation (25, 26, 27) in addition to the cooking points (12, 13, 14, 15).
3. The actuation device according to claim 2, characterised in that the sensor unit (18) can sense an actuation of the actuation element (16, 17) in a direction of actuation (26, 27, 28) pointing in front of the cooking appliance (10).
4. The actuation device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that a

pushbutton (28) can be incorporated in the actuation element (16, 17).

5. The actuation device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the actuation element (16, 17) is formed by a toggle which has a diameter (29) between 0.8 cm and 1.2 cm in its gripping area.
6. The actuation device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised by a mechanism (50) which can change the extension of the actuation element (16) over a cooking surface of the cooking points (12, 13, 14, 15).
7. A cooking appliance (10, 11) comprising an actuation device according to any one of the preceding claims.
8. The cooking appliance (10, 11) according to claim 7, characterised in that the actuation element (16, 17) of the actuation device in the mounted state extends less than 2.5 cm over a cooking surface of the cooking points (12, 13, 14, 15) in at least one operating position.